

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05

IGA-01 OMB-01 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 EB-07

TRSE-00 /068 W

----- 011769

R 011421Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3769

CSAF WASHDC

USAF/LGF WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

AFLC WPAFB OH/MMI

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 5575

ADDIS ABABA FOR COLONEL WHITAKER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS KE

SUBJECT: KENYA TO SEEK -5A/B AIRCRAFT

1. MINISTRY OF DEFENSE PERM SEC KIEREINI TOLD AMBASSADOR JULY 1 THAT GOK HAS DECIDED TO ATTEMPT TO PROCURE PROPOSED PACKAGE OF 10 F-5A AND 2 F-5B AIRCRAFT CURRENTLY IN IMPERIAL IRANIAN AIR FORCE (IIAF). KENYAN DECISION FOLLOWS CAREFUL REVIEW OF COMPREHENSIVE REPORT OF CAPABILITY AND REQUIREMENTS OF KENYAN AIR FORCE (KAF) TO OPERATE F-5A/B AIRCRAFT WHICH WAS COMPILED DURING JUNE 13-25, 1975 VISIT TO KENYA BY 11-MAN USAF SURVEY TEAM LED BY COL. D. WHITAKER.

2. KIEREINI SAID THAT KENYA WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO ACQUIRE F-5E/F AIRCRAFT, BUT CURRENT LACK OF TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED KAF PERSONNEL PLUS UNCERTAINTIES INVOLVED WITH THIS MORE ADVANCED VERSION (TIMING,
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AVAILABILITY, FINANCING ETC) PRESENT GOK WITH QTE NO

ALTERNATIVE UNQTE BUT TO SEEK F-5A/BS AT THIS TIME.
KIEREINI SAID KAF COMMANDER, COL. GICHURU, REGARDS
F-5A/B AS QTE VERY GOOD STEPPING STONE UNQUOTE TOWARD
EVENTUAL ACQUISITION OF F-5E/F AS FOLLOW-ON AIRCRAFT.

3. FOR USAF/LGF: REGARDING ACTION ITEMS IN SURVEY
TEAM REPORT (ANNEX 8), KENYANS HAVE DECIDED AVIONICS
PACKAGE IN F-5A/B AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO CONFORM
WITH OTHER KAF EQUIPMENT. REQUEST AFLC PROVIDE
INFORMATION ON REMAINING FOUR ACTION ITEMS SOONEST.

4. COMMENT: WHILE UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS (AGE, SPARES,
ETC) STILL MUST BE SETTLED IN ORDER FOR US TO OFFER F-5A/B
PACKAGE TO KENYA, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD BEGIN PLANNING
HOW PACKAGE COULD BE FINANCED IF DEAL IS CONSUMMATED.
DOLS5 MILLION LINE OF FMS CREDIT NOW AVAILABLE TO KENYA
FROM FY75 FUNDS IS FAR SHORT OF DOLS23 MILLION WHICH USAF
SURVEY TEAM ESTIMATES PACKAGE WOULD COST. SINCE GOK
NOT RPT NOT IN POSITION FINANCE OUT OF OWN RESOURCES,
I RECOMMEND WE TENTATIVELY EARMARK SUFFICIENT FY76 FMS CREDIT
FOR KENYA TO COVER REMAINDER.
MARSHALL

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